

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A wearable vial holder for securing at least one vial of medication on the person of a medical practitioner, the wearable vial holder comprising:

5 a body-engaging member structured and arranged to be secured to a part of the body of a medical practitioner; and

a vial gripper affixed to the body-engaging member for releasably grasping and holding at least one vial in a position having a cap of the vial accessible so that the practitioner has access to the at least one vial for one-handed drawing of medication
10 therefrom using a syringe with a needle.

2. The wearable vial holder of claim 1, wherein the body-engaging member includes a needle-puncture-resistant shield for covering the body of the medical practitioner to prevent accidental needle sticks.

3. The wearable vial holder of claim 2, wherein the needle-puncture-resistant shield comprises a flexible sheet and is sandwiched between an inner layer and an outer
15 layer of the body-engaging member.

4. The wearable vial holder of claim 3, wherein the inner layer is a breathable fabric.

5. The wearable vial holder of claim 1, wherein the body-engaging member has an outer surface that defines a first component of a two-component releasable fastening system, and wherein the vial gripper includes a gripping member affixed to the body-
20 engaging member, the gripping member having a surface that defines a second component of the two-component releasable fastening system such that a vial is secured in the vial gripper by disposing the vial between the gripping member and the body-
25 engaging member and releasably attaching the gripping member to the outer surface of the body-engaging member by mutual engagement of the two components of the fastening system.

5 6. The wearable vial holder of claim 5, in combination with a vial having an attachment member affixed thereto, the attachment member having a surface defining the second component of the two-component releasable fastening system, whereby the vial is releasably attached to the body-engaging member via the attachment member on the vial and is further secured by the gripping member.

 7. The wearable vial holder of claim 6, wherein the two-component fastening system comprises a hook and loop system.

10 8. The wearable vial holder of claim 7, wherein the attachment member and the gripping member comprise hook components of the hook and loop system and the outer surface of the body-engaging member comprises a loop component of the hook and loop system.

 9. The wearable vial holder of claim 1, wherein the body-engaging member is structured and arranged to be wrapped around and secured to an arm of a medical practitioner.

15 10. The wearable vial holder of claim 9, wherein the body-engaging member includes at least one elastic member.

 11. The wearable vial holder of claim 10, wherein the body-engaging member includes a shield portion forming a needle-puncture-resistant shield that wraps at least partway about the arm and is secured in place by the at least one elastic member.

20 12. The wearable vial holder of claim 11, wherein the at least one elastic member comprises a first elastic member having at least one end releasably attachable to the shield portion in various positions for adjusting a fit of the wearable vial holder about the arm.

25 13. The wearable vial holder of claim 12, wherein the at least one elastic member comprises a second elastic member having opposite ends non-releasably affixed to the shield portion to form an arm-encircling structure that holds the wearable vial holder in place on the arm while the first elastic member is adjusted.

14. The wearable vial holder of claim 11, wherein the shield portion and the at least one elastic member on outer surfaces thereof have a first component of a releasable hook and loop fastening system, and the vial gripper comprises a strap on one surface of which is a second component of the hook and loop fastening system for releasably affixing the strap in various positions to at least one of the shield portion and the elastic member.

15. A wearable vial holder for releasably securing at least one vial of medication in a substantially fixed position with respect to the body of a medical practitioner, the wearable vial holder comprising:

10 a body-engaging member structured and arranged to be secured to a part of the body of a medical practitioner, the body-engaging member including a shield portion that is needle-puncture-resistant to protect the practitioner against accidental needle sticks, a surface of the body-engaging member having a first component of a releasable hook and loop fastening system; and

15 a vial gripping strap affixed to the shield portion for releasably grasping and holding at least one vial on the shield portion so that the practitioner has access to the at least one vial for one-handed drawing of medication therefrom using a syringe with a needle, a surface of the strap having a second component of the hook and loop fastening system such that the strap is releasably attachable to the shield portion in various positions to accommodate various sizes and numbers of vials.

16. The wearable vial holder of claim 15, in combination with a vial having an attachment member affixed thereto, the attachment member comprising the second component of the hook and loop fastening system, whereby the vial is releasably attached to the body-engaging member via the attachment member on the vial and is further secured by the gripping strap.

17. The wearable vial holder of claim 15, wherein the shield portion comprises a multi-layered structure including at least a shield layer of needle-puncture-resistant material and an outer layer providing the first component of the hook and loop fastening system.

18. The wearable vial holder of claim 17, wherein the shield portion further comprises an inner layer of breathable material for placement against the body of a medical practitioner.

5 19. A medication vial for use with a wearable vial holder, the medication vial comprising:

a bottle containing a quantity of liquid medication for injection and having a cap puncturable by a needle for drawing medication into a syringe; and

10 an attachment member affixed to an outer surface of the bottle, the attachment member comprising one component of a two-component releasable fastening system, whereby the medication vial is releasably attachable to a wearable vial holder having the other component of the releasable fastening system on a surface thereof.

20. The medication vial of claim 19, wherein the attachment member comprises a piece of hook material of a hook and loop fastening system.